

# MONTEREY NEWS

JANUARY 1987



## DONATIONS TO THE LAND PRESERVATION TRUST

At a regular board meeting on December 10, the Monterey Preservation Land Trust received three donations of land for conservation purposes, totaling nearly 45 acres. Joyce and Lewis Scheffey have given the Trust a parcel of 2.8 acres on the corner of Wellman and New Marlborough Roads. Along Route 23, on Keyes' Corners near Chestnut Hill Road, is a 1.45-acre piece of land donated by Richard and Marianne Jaffe of Cheshire, Connecticut. A small stream runs across this wooded land, and the Jaffes have asked us to keep it in a natural state. Finally, the board accepted 10.5 acres on Barnum Flats from Bob and Peggy Thieriot, as well as 31 acres along Gould Road from Bob Thieriot. These parcels include sections of the Konkapot River and Rawson Brook.

The Trust is pleased to take on these lands, and grateful to the donors for their generosity. These are our first acquisitions. We hope others will follow, enabling us to continue preserving open land in Monterey wherever it's appropriate and possible. In coming issues of the *News* we'll describe the land transfer process and the natural features of these parcels in detail.

Michèle Miller has taken the initiative with the Open Space Committee, which is now contacting all Town boards for their comments. The Committee will soon complete its report. Acceptance of the report by the state will make Monterey eligible for state funds to purchase open space.

— Peter Murkett

## "CAUTION, LOW USAGE OF SALT AND SAND"

As a result of the reduced override, this sign is now posted at either end of town on Route 23. The town has to husband its resources and cut down on overtime working hours. During storms the road crews will normally begin clearing and sanding at 4:00 a.m. and stop work at 11:00 p.m. They can be called at other hours for a particular emergency, but it takes time to get to the shed, prepare equipment, and then get to the scene of the problem. Motorists are advised to limit their driving in sleeting and freezing weather. At such times sand is frozen over or washed away and so will be used sparingly.

Residents may obtain salted sand for their own driveways and walks from the pile on the left of the town yard as you enter the gate.



SUSAN McALLESTER

## 9:30 CIRCLE OF MEDITATION MUSIC AND SHARING

## 10:30 WORSHIP SERVICE

### WELCOME

#### ALFRED W. MOLLÉ

Alfred W. Mollé, 81, of Route 23, died December 20 at his home. He was born in Walthamstow, England, attended schools in England, came to the United States as a young man and graduated from the Reading Technical Institute in Pennsylvania. He worked for many years as an engineer at the Dearfoot Engineering Corp. in Little Falls, New Jersey, and came to Monterey after his retirement in 1967. He leaves his wife of 59 years, Adrienne Bronner Mollé, at home; two daughters, Marilyn M. Hart of Sharon, Connecticut, and Phyllis M. Mollé of New York City; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

#### MARY Q. MONK

Mary Quackenbos Monk, 66, of Seymour, Connecticut, and Elephant Rock Road on Lake Garfield, died December 1 at Bridgeport Hospital after a brief illness. She and her husband, the Rev. Arthur J. Monk, built their cottage in Monterey in 1954. She was born in Mt. Vernon, New York, in 1920, attended Mt. Holyoke College, was a communicant of Trinity Episcopal Church and a member of the Episcopal Church Women. Besides her husband, she leaves two sons, William Monk of Lawrenceville, Georgia, and Roger Monk of Wallingford, Connecticut; a daughter, Nancy Gardner of Denver, Colorado; a brother, John D. Quackenbos of Wayland, Massachusetts; and a sister, Marjorie Oud, of Truro, Massachusetts.

#### HELMI K. OSWALD

Helmi Kaatrakoski Oswald, 93, formerly of Mt. Hunger Road and then Main Road, died December 3 at Edgecomb Nursing Home in Lenox. Born in Helsinki, Finland, she was educated there and at the University of California in San Francisco. A New York City resident for 60 years, she worked there as an interpreter and secretary to the Finnish Counsel General for many years. She and her husband, Kalman Oswald, came as summer residents on Mt. Hunger Road in 1929 and moved here permanently in 1969. They and their companion, Noel Mahn, were ardent hikers and outdoors people: for years they paid their taxes by marketing the wild berries they gathered on their property, "Blueberry Hill." Kalman died in 1975, but a sister of Helmi's, Lyynli Lindell, is still living in Finland.

#### WINTER SNOW

*Winter snow falls so slow,  
Sometimes fast as we see it drift past,  
So soft and white, it looks so bright.  
The great joy of winter fills us right up  
With holidays and memories we don't forget.*

— Paul Makuc

*The hills have turned their backs to summer now—  
They are hunched and grey and still;  
The skull of winter's hidden in the mist,  
Only the firs bear banners against the chill.*

— Dorothy E. Law

#### SUZANNE MacIVER

Suzanne MacIver, Monterey town clerk and registrar of voters for over 25 years, died on December 10 at Fairview Hospital after a brief illness. She was born in Virginia Beach, Virginia, in 1927, went to school in Newport, Rhode Island, and at Lasell Junior College in Auburndale. She worked in the First National Bank in Boston and came to the First Agricultural Bank in Great Barrington in 1954. In 1968 she joined the business department at Simon's Rock College until her retirement this year. She was a member of the Town Republican Committee, Grange #281, and the Monterey Historical Society, and was a former member of the board of directors of the South Berkshire Chapter of the American Cancer Society. She leaves her mother, Audrey B. Gates Staples, of Venice Gardens, Georgia. Her husband, John A. MacIver, also a former Monterey town clerk, died in 1969.



PHOTO BY SUSAN McALLESTER

## DEATH IN LIFE

It is not uncommon for people to refer to something happening in life as a "death experience." Some events are so shattering that they take on qualities which indeed are akin to death.

Even as life continued on I experienced a dying. In many ways a physical death would have seemed easier and often seemed more desirable. The events leading up to and unfolding in the criminal charges against me, and then the trial through early December — how much the quality of death entered it!

Death is often spoken of as the great destroyer. Yes, it is. Death shatters life as we know it. Physical death appears to destroy life altogether. I say it "appears to destroy life." There is a faith and there are evidences that lead to the conviction that this total destruction may be more in appearance than in reality. In New England we watch death appear to destroy life across the entire landscape in October and November. Plants and most trees take on the appearance of being dead, utterly lifeless. Were we to experience this for the first time we might surmise that death had nearly eradicated life. But April and May have taught us that the victory of death in nature is more in appearance than in reality. Yes, and in our humanity even as we lay the lifeless bodies of our loved ones in the ground, there lives a stubborn, persistent faith that this may be more in appearance than in reality.

Ah, but death indeed is a destroyer, or certainly a bringer of massive changes. After a death-in-life experience has done its work, life is not, cannot and will never be, the same again. Death brings unalterable changes into life. The excruciating months leading up to the trial and the trial itself were life shattering. It took on qualities related peculiarly to death.

Questionings arose in the minds of people as the charges were made and as rumor and speculation spread. Not only was a wondering going on around me, but the inner world I inhabited went through questioning after questioning. A process was started, a process bringing pain, uncertainty, and grief that made my world, in some respects, a different world from any I had ever inhabited before. Yes, this was an aspect, a dimension of death. Familiar patterns that seemed good were dissolving. Unfamiliar patterns with threatening and distorted features began to appear. How like the physical death process when health and well-being give way to disease and dysfunction. Truly a death within life began to occur. As it played its way out this was no make-believe death or dying. It carried the qualities of death to an astonishing degree.

Something all people experience in death is its enormous capacity to change relationships. What people lament most about death is the breaking of relationships it effects. A loved one dies. That person seemingly has moved beyond the range of my seeing, my touching, and I find myself wondering if my caring makes one whit of difference. A death-in-life experience is strikingly similar. The pain of relationships being broken is one of the most painful hurts that humans know. Whether in physical death or in death-in-life experiences, the seeming sundering of relationships is the most excruciating of all known suffering. Songs are sung about it, novels are written concerning it, dramas are acted portraying it.

Let us look further. If death does anything it brings into play a reordering of life. The first thing physical death seems to do is so disorder life that it appears to cease altogether. The "new ordering" seems to be a dissolving of life itself. This is why death is regarded over and over as the ultimate enemy. It appears to cast an overwhelming vote against life itself, to say nothing of a reordering of life. Following the death of a loved one the large majority of people experience a period of drastic reordering of life. We can only surmise what it is like to be the person who died. It doesn't take much imagination to believe that the reordering must be much more dramatic for the person who dies, leaving the physical body as a wornout shell.

When it is a death in life experience there is present also the unmistakable, inexorable reordering of life. Very recently I have spent a considerable amount of time and energy with a person whose life came into sharp crisis. His well being was threatened emotionally, financially and almost every way he could imagine. He began to recognize patterns in his own life which earlier had seemed to serve him well, but now these same patterns were undermining all he had longed and worked for. He kept describing what he was going through as a death. With good reason! Now his eyes were opened. Old ways of relating were doing him in. A new way of being himself had to emerge. This has the unfailing marks of a death-in-life experience. There is no way through but a radical reordering of the way he had learned to cope with life. Now the fingers of change are reaching into the very fabric of his being asking him to reorder the way he sees, the way he feels, and the way he acts. And he is doing it. A new person, with changed perspectives, is emerging. His death in life is enabling him to let go of old dysfunctional patterns and allow new ones to take form and grow. Without his death-in-life experience there is no way in which he could have let go of the old and welcomed the new.

I am too close to have a clear picture of all the reordering that will come to me from my death-in-life experience. One thing I do know: The more powerful the death-in-life experience, the more likely one is to undergo a radical inner restructuring of the personality. Depths of being are plumbed that one was only dimly aware of before. Aspects of the self are opened and searched, that otherwise would have remained in the dim unconscious realm.

A death-in-life experience opens wider the possibilities of choice. The whole system is shocked into deepening sensibilities. I am not saying that a death in life is an automatic pathway to growth. Not at all. What does happen is a widening of choice. Alternatives are sharper. Possibilities are broadened. Still, the inner dealing with what we see, feel, experience lies in the critical realm of choice and decision. With these decisions doors can be opened. Yes, and if we really choose to do so, doors can be closed. It is always up to each one of us what we will do with our death-in-life experience.

My prayer, my hope, my longing is that an experience so death-dealing — so life-opening — will be handled with great reverence. My wish would be that this strange gift bestowed, which I would have given my very life to avoid, may be a source of unfolding further the mystery of our human existence.

— Virgil V. Brallier

## TO BE BORN IN A BARN

When I was a child (and ever since), the thing I wanted most was to live on a farm. Instead, we lived in a neighborhood, on a block, in a town. I walked three blocks to school and came home to a backyard scene which included twenty-one other kids within three years of my age, all on the same block. Did I appreciate any of this? No. I wanted woods and pastures, horses and a hayloft. I wanted animals and I wanted a barn.

A barn is church and heaven rolled into one. It is tall, lofty, and open. Shafts of sunlight stream down from the cupola, picked up by hay dust and motes, as lovely as any colored light from a stained glass creation. The light in a barn is warm, any time of year, reflected on woodgrain and straw bedding. By day the big doors are open to pasture and wild lands beyond. The view from the barn door is so big, it is the whole world. I believe God lives many places, but since He has the universe in which to choose, I think He must live mostly in a barn.

At night, with the big doors closed and the animals in, a barn is peaceful. Sounds of settling fill the darkness, the low reassuring voices of the large animals and the churring of hens going to roost. As the domestic animals quiet down for the night, humankind's companions keeping a diurnal workday, the wild creatures begin to stir. Mice scurry to the hoppers to check for spilled grain, bats edge along the ridge cracks to drop out and fly in the deepening dusk. The owl in the cupola sets sail without a sound as night comes to the farm.

If I had been God, I would have lived in a barn practically all the time, with short trips away to mountain tops, seaside, and sagebrush country. As it was, I had a nice room in a house with my parents and brother, a couple of cats, and assorted rodents in cages. The barn of my childhood was one here in Monterey, belonging to my mother's aunt, whom we visited as often as we could.

When we arrived I would skip the house and head directly for the big gray barn behind. The door slid reluctantly on rusted rollers, but I could always heave it over enough to squeeze inside. There I stood in a big, quiet space. This barn was even more silent than most churches since it no longer housed any of the domestic animals. The last farmer in the family had been a generation before my mother's aunt, and he was long gone before I was born.

Still, I always felt his presence in the barn. Many of his tools were there in the tool room, including a chest with wooden levels and a large hunk of blue chalk with a groove in it. I opened the lid to look at these things every time we visited, wondering just how they had been useful, so long ago.

There was a buggy and a complicated grain winnower with many cranks and belts and screens, and a couple of heavy sleds stood up against the far wall. There were two horse stalls, too, on the main floor, and though they were full of boxes and storm windows, I stood by them and let my fantasies go. Climbing over the boxes I found corner grain feeders and imagined the horses there, gathering in oats and corn with their big lips, tossing their heads, whickering to each other across the divider.

The steps down to the cellar were sculpted by porcupines, some so shallow you really couldn't fit a foot onto them. Down in the cellar, on a dirt floor with stone foundation walls,

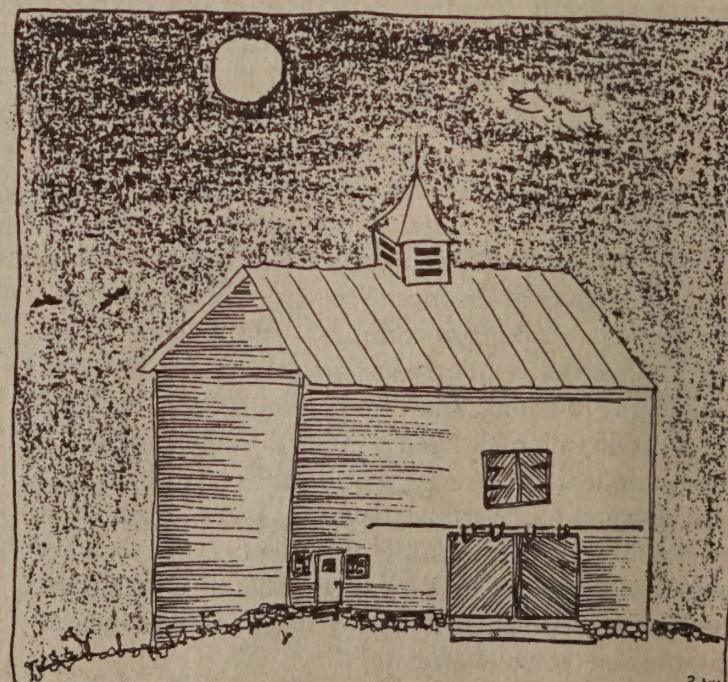
it was always cool in summer. There were wooden stanchions, a pile of tin roofing, and usually porcupine quills scattered around. The back door led down the hill to Lake Garfield, the east end of which was my great-great uncle's cow pasture before the dam was built and the lake raised to its current summertime level. (In winter, with the lake drawn down as it is these days, you can see where the pasture was. Two years ago, when the spring and summer were so dry the lake didn't fill up until after Labor Day, Dad Keyes's cow pasture grew grass again for the first time in many years.)

Since my great aunt died, her place has changed hands several times. Where we live now we drive by it every day, and over the years the barn, long past its usefulness, has been let go. A grand structure like a barn with gaping holes in the roof is a sad sight anywhere. Since I was born this particular barn has housed only bats, phoebes, and porcupines, with woodchucks and garter snakes in and under the stonework. Once it housed my childhood fantasies, but for the last ten years or so I have had my own small farm, with chickens laying in the manger and goats giving birth in the hay. It's not a cathedral of a barn, like the one on Keyes Corner; in fact, it's kind of a basement apartment. When we lived in the shed above it, we could hear our downstairs neighbors conversing in low tones as they went to bed. Any loud noise on our part would wake the rooster, causing him to crow.

The fate of a barn with a caved-in roof is not hard to guess. I've just learned that the new owner at Keyes Corner has wisely decided to have the barn burned down, and for me it will be a little like seeing an old, old friend relieved of a difficult earthly attachment, not to mention the embarrassment of physical dilapidation.

I used to berate my parents for not having contrived, somehow, to have had me born in the saddle. I thought they could have gotten one into the hospital somehow. Now I think the best place to be born, if you are God and have your choice, is among the animals in the soft light of a barn.

— Bonner J. McAllester





JB

## LAOCOON

**Barrington Ballet**  
Registration For Fall Classes  
September 2 - 5 and September 8 - 12  
2-6 p.m.  
Saturdays, September 6 & 13  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Classes Begin September 15  
36 Railroad Street Great Barrington, MA  
Phone 413-528-4963

### PERSONAL NOTES

Welcome back to Tom and Pat Andrus, who recently enjoyed a trip to Hawaii, where they visited son Dan. They had a wonderful time and returned with a lot of color and a little pineapple. Enjoy the snow now, you too!

Welcome back also to John, Anne Marie, and Shaen O'Connor of Lake Garfield, who have just returned from a two-month excursion to the Near and Far East. A brief sketch of their itinerary includes snorkeling in Bora-Bora, visiting Hokkaido (Japan), Hong Kong, Bankok, and the Great Wall of China, making a trip down the Yangtze, and going on a safari in the Serengeti Wildlife Preserve in Kenya. Wow! We would all love to hear more! Perhaps they will publish a little travelogue as soon as they recover from jet lag. How about it, O'Connors? And, again, welcome back to Monterey!

The Westenburg family — Dick, Judith, Kirsten and Eric — were together at Thanksgiving at their Lake Garfield home, as they will be for Christmas. Eric arrived late on Thanksgiving, having made his television debut that day. Eric was a volunteer for the Macy's parade as one of the people holding down Shamu, the baby whale (the newest float in the parade). Good job, Eric! He is a department manager at Macy's and volunteered his services in the parade along with 2,500 other employees.

Hearty congratulations to **Mark and Donna Sheridan Stevens**, of Malden, on the birth of their baby girl, **Amanda Lee**, on November 28. Grandparents **Richard and Mabel Sheridan**, of Main Road, got the call and scurried out just after Thanksgiving dinner to be there! Congratulations to all of you!

Congratulations to Monterey author **Roberta Silman** of Blue Hill Road, whose new novel, *The Dream Dredger*, was published December 29 by Persea Books. It is already available in bookstores as of December 1. The literary luster of our town continues to grow!

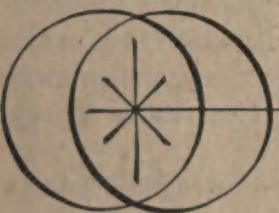
**Natasha Grotz** is enjoying her birthday present, a week-long ski racing camp at Burke Mountain Academy in northern Vermont. Tasha will return to Monterey just in time for Christmas.

Hearty congratulations to these Monterey students listed on the Mt. Everett Regional School's Honor Roll for the first quarter. They are: Grade 12, honors, **Michelle Grotz**; Grade 11, high honors, **Janet Thieriot**, and honors, **Christopher Makuc**; Grade 10, high honors, **Shelby Loder**; Grade 9, high honors, **Natasha Grotz** and **Anne Marie Makuc**, and Grade 8, honors, **Brooke Loder**, **Jennifer Swann**, and **William Thieriot**. Good job, all of you! Keep up the good work!

Happy birthday wishes to **Kip Makuc** and **Linda Thorpe** on December 8, to **Jim Makuc** on December 14, **Hedy Craven** on December 24, to **Peter Vallianos** on December 28, to **Diane Rausch**, **Rosemary Branagan** and **Savitri**, all on January 7, and to **Grace Zerra** on January 10.

And enjoy a wonderful holiday season, everyone — here's to the new year!

— Stephanie Grotz

 THE New Spirit  
RTE. 23 - MONTEREY, MA. 01245 413-528-4889

The Southern Berkshires  
Largest Selection of 1987 Calendars

- 10% off through Dec. 10 -

audubon · uricef · crystals · astrological  
trees · leaves · flowers · rainbow · canyons  
monet · van gogh · children of the world  
sacred spaces · himalayan · moon · peace  
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OPEN mon.-sat. 10-5 sun. 1-4 OPEN

**UPDATE ON SELECTMEN'S MEETINGS**

MONTEREY — Elizabeth Pizzichemi and Mrs. Donald Kickery attended the Nov. 24 Board meeting with their attorney Harry Conklin to discuss the matter of the care and maintenance of West Road. Mrs. Pizzichemi said that due to the poor condition of the road, residents are unable to hire a contractor to plow it in winter. She asked if the town would be willing to scrape the road so "someone could come in to plow it."

Selectman Hans Kessler replied that the road is privately owned and not the town's responsibility. He said that road was in such a state that the town grader might be damaged. He added that the Board understood the problems of the residents, but the Board had "neither the power, duty or right to do the work."

Mrs. Pizzichemi said residents would petition the town at the next town meeting to take over the roads. The Board said if it were put in writing, they would be glad to put it on the warrant and bring it before the town.

In other business, Dick Tryon suggested the town post signs at both ends of town advising motorists to use caution due to minimal use of salt on the roads.

At the Dec. 1 meeting, Mr. Kessler said that the matter of a house under construction on Stratford Lane where there is question about the proximity of the existing water supply and house's proposed septic system had been referred to the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering (DEQE) for decision.

The partially built house was never issued a building permit. One was submitted, but did not have a Disposal Works permit from the Board of Health, nor does the lot have a water supply that conforms to the law, Mr. Kessler said.

Kessler told contractor Jim O'Cain that he would consult with Sanitary Inspector Peter Cologgi on the matter, but he believed it was a matter for DEQE to decide.

In other business, Selectman Chairman Jed Lipsky requested that Highway Superintendent Donald Amstead attend Board meetings on a weekly basis except on Road and Machinery Committee meeting nights. Mr. Amstead agreed to make an appearance at 7:30 to answer any highway department related questions.

Michele Miller, representing the Open Space Committee approached the Board at the Dec. 8 meeting for input about the five-year plan the committee is developing for both the preservation of the town's open space and and for recreation.

In other business, a letter was received from the State Department of Public Works (DPW) relative to Gould Farm's request that speed signs be posted on Curtis Road. The DPW suggested that the town install pedestrian or curve warning signs with advisory speed plates in the areas of concern. Though the speeds would not be legally enforceable, the signs might be helpful in controlling and alerting motorists.

— Judith Freeman

To the editor:

In the December *Monterey News*, Jed Lipsky's letter to the editor exuded a highly defensive flavor. This led me to wonder how well Mr. Lipsky has transcended his personal prejudices and whether he has made the fairest, most judicial, environmentally sound, cost-effective decisions in the best interests of Monterey taxpayers and citizens.

Perhaps Mr. Lipsky and the other Monterey selectmen, through the Roads and Machinery Committee, can demonstrate their objectivity and fair-mindedness in the best interests of 14 families living "up the hill" opposite Lee Side Lodge on West Road and its branches.

Each of these families has a deeded right of way from Henry Hebert and/or his heirs and assigns. Because the owners of this road have continued to decline direct responsibility for its maintenance, these consequences have occurred:

1. "Hill" landowners were forced to scrape and grade the road at their own expense on previous occasions;
2. My automobile suffered damage to the transmission and exhaust systems because of the eroded condition of the road;
3. "Hill" landowners have been told by Linda Hebert to form an association for the purpose of regularly maintaining the road, thereby absolving themselves of responsibility or cost for such maintenance;
4. Contractors are reluctant to enter into a contract for road grading with the "Hill" landowners unless and until written permission is obtained from the legal owner(s) of the road;
5. The Monterey Roads and Machinery Committee and/or the legal road owner(s) have not required the builders of the new home at the southernmost end of the road to install proper rainwater drainage, so that rainstorms aggravate the already-eroded condition of the road; and
6. Some Monterey selectmen have cautioned "Hill" landowners against "angering" Henry Hebert and/or "the Heberts" by pressuring him or them to take some direct or indirect action to arrange for maintenance of the road.

On its own, our Town's Roads and Machinery Committee should inspect the road conditions under which 14 of its families are forced to function and then exercise its governmental authority to see to it that appropriate corrective steps are taken by the road owner(s) or the Town.

Hopefully, this letter to the many dedicated public officials and employees who claim to serve our town so well will lead to action on the road matter and not to another series of defensive letters.

Very truly yours,

Jay S. Ferkin

To the editor:

I would like to thank all the people who sponsored me for the Math-a-thon to raise money for St. Jude Research Hospital. With all your help and cooperation I raised \$116.00! Thanks a lot!

— Paul Makuc

Julius Miner, Indian Expert



PHOTO BY ELEANOR KIMBERLEY

Julius Miner in 1957

# FREE!

A CURE FOR THE MID-WINTER DOLDRUMS . . .

**Four Saturday evening movies**presented by the Monterey Library  
through the

Western Regional Public Library System

- JAN 10 **HIS GIRL FRIDAY** (1940), with Cary Grant and Rosalind Russell
- JAN 17 **CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN** (1950), with Clifton Webb and Jeanne Crain
- JAN 24 **CAT BALLOU** (1965), with Lee Marvin and Jane Fonda
- JAN 31 **BYE BYE BIRDIE** (1963), with Dick Van Dyke and Janet Leigh

Bring the family!

Admission free

7:30 p.m. in the library basement

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

**HANDMADE WINDSORS**  
  
**PETER MURKETT**

Monterey, Mass. 01243 Tel 413-528-9937

Old-time residents of Monterey will remember Julius Miner, who for many years operated the Monterey General Store with his twin brother, Lester. Julius was noteworthy for his sociability and his keen interest in everything connected with the town. He was ready to talk with anyone about beavers, wildflowers, or the meaning of life. He left us a *History of Monterey* (co-authored with Margery Mansfield) and a manuscript describing especially interesting walks about town. Some of the latter have been reproduced in this paper.

Julius' historical interest extended to the Indians who formerly inhabited this region. This writer remembers Julius' story of how "Chief" Konkapot sold his rights to the territory now occupied by Monterey for seven beaver hats. This may be a variant on the recorded sale of the Great Barrington region for £460, three barrels of cider and 30 quarts of rum in 1724.

In the accompanying photograph, Julius is holding the artifact now on deposit at the Monterey Historical Society. These finds were made around the shores of Lake Garfield and may have been left by the Mahicans or by the Late Woodlands Indians who occupied western Massachusetts before the Mahicans moved over here from the Hudson Valley in the mid-seventeenth century.

Different designs of arrowheads and spear points can be seen: the white ones are of quartz, the others are of several kinds of flint, a silicaceous stone that has a cutting edge like glass when chipped. Some of the square-looking pieces are flint scrapers, essential in preparing furs and leather. The two square items at 11:00 and 1:00 o'clock are fragments of clay cooking pots. An axhead can be seen in the center of the display.

The large, smooth stone at the bottom is a pestle that could have been used for grinding corn or acorns into flour. This style was usually used in a wooden mortar. Along with the pottery, the pestle is a clue that there may have been Indian gardens or even a village by Lake Garfield. At the right end of the pestle, in the display, is a small adze head, looking almost like part of the same stone. This sturdy polished stone, a tough igneous rock instead of brittle flint, could have cut saplings and peeled bark for wigwams and could have hollowed out wooden vessels from a dish to a dugout canoe.

Pottery and polished stone tools are taken as evidence of Neolithic ("new stone") culture in which hunting is supplemented by gardening and pottery makes possible the cooking of grains. Agriculture implies a large increase in storable food and hence the possibility of village-sized communities. We may find a village site, someday, on the shore of Lake Buel or Lake Garfield, or along the banks of the Konkapot. With more evidence we might be able to tell whether it was occupied by the Mahicans or their predecessors.

— David P. McAllester



## NEWS FROM NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL SCHOOL

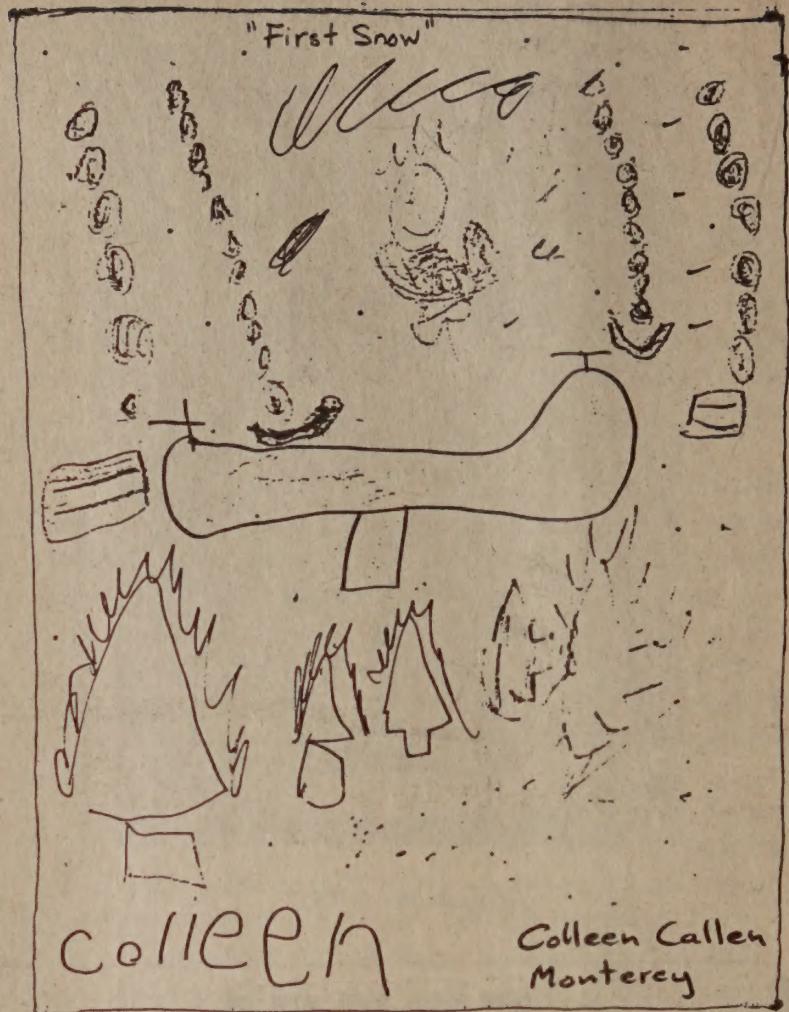
In November all the second grades of our district were privileged to visit the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute in Williamstown. This program is sponsored by the museum to familiarize elementary students with works of art and to give them a brief glimpse into art appreciation. In preparation for the tour, the museum sent slides of the art works to the schools so that the students would see and the teachers could talk about the paintings before their visit to Williamstown. The museum tour was conducted by docents, volunteer tour guides, who took about ten children each under their wings for the duration of the tour. It was truly a thrill when the children recognized paintings they had seen on the slides beforehand. As one of the docents said, "Isn't it just like meeting an old friend?" The second graders had been studying their five senses in social studies and science, and one room in the museum was reserved for the primary grades to have sensory experiences. Students felt objects in a dark box, listened to sounds in another box, looked through peepholes and smelled perfumes and coffee, etc. The classes of Chris Kelley, Sally Mahoney, Sharon Milukas and Georgianna O'Connell made this most fascinating field trip accompanied by interested mothers, all of whom felt they would like to visit again and bring their whole families. Bus transportation money was provided by grants to the museum.

— Maureen Bradley



SUSAN MCALLESTER

Thomas Goewey and Tim Welk pull off a trick at the Monterey Fire Company's Christmas party on December 21st.



## YOUTH NEWS

There is a SADD (Students Against Drunk Driving) chapter at Mt. Everett. Currently, the students involved are making ready presentations for younger students as well as working on new and interesting fundraising ideas. There are many current members from Monterey in this organization. They are Jenean Bohn, Paul Bynack, Michelle Grotz, Natasha Grotz, Shelby Loder, Anne-Marie Makuc, Patrick McBride, Rebecca Parks, Gaby Sherb, and Janet Thieriot.

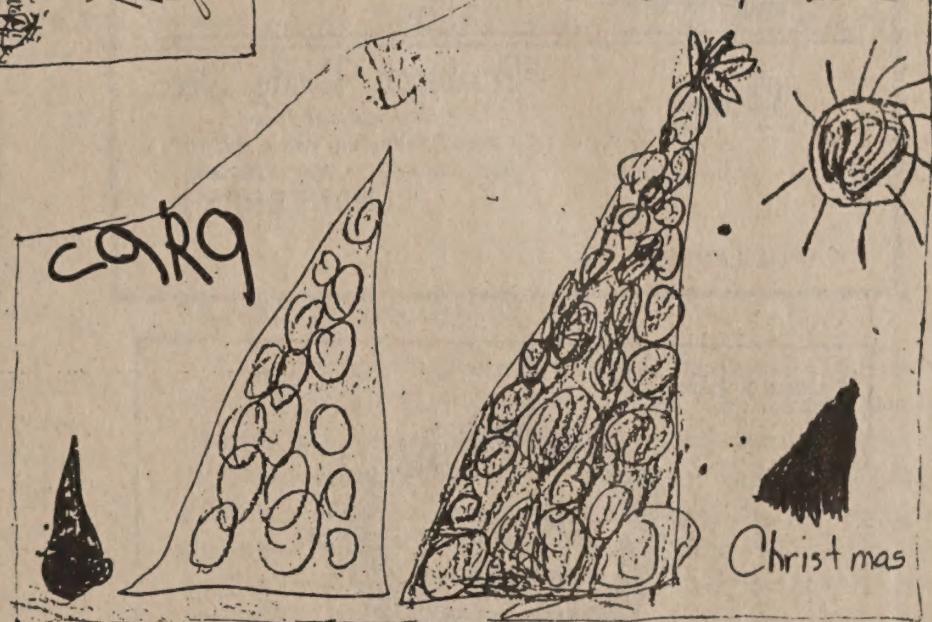
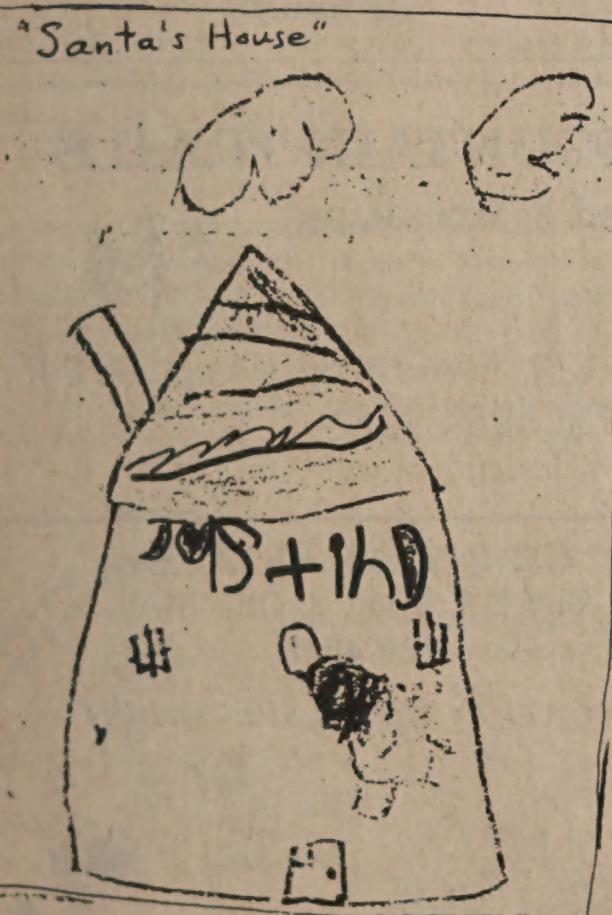
Nancy Loder's chorus musical class at Mt. Everett has been working very hard on a musical called "A Computerized Christmas," which has been presented to the students of New Marlborough School (as well as those at Sheffield Center and Mt. Everett). Monterey cast members include Jenean Bohn, Michelle Grotz, and Brooke Loder.

The Girl Scouts of Troop #66 of Monterey, New Marlborough, Sheffield, and Egremont have kept very busy. The troop have earned a computer badge and are working on several more. They have learned several things about the upkeep of a car, taken a hike at Benedict Pond, and are still in the process of planning for their trip to Boston.

Mrs. Sadlowski will be holding an organizational meeting for all Scouts, Cubs and Brownies to plan an Easter Egg hunt. It will be at the Sadlowski home on January 15. Please call for details (528-4704).



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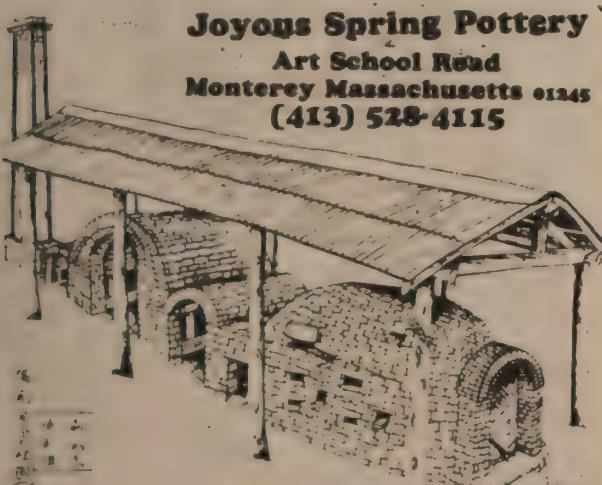
Alexandre Tarasov of the Thorez Institute in Moscow addressing the Community Dinner. Six Soviet students who spent the autumn term at the State University of New York in Albany visited Monterey on October 29, 1986.

## COMMUNITY GARDEN

Over the past five years various ideas have come forth on establishing a community vegetable garden for Monterey residents. Because of a lack of available growing space, none of these plans has borne fruit.

Milly Walsh and Bob Thieriot are sponsoring a meeting on January 14 at 7:00 p.m. at Walsh's Store to discuss the possibility of a community garden or a cooperative garden to work in conjunction with the vegetable farm at Tall Pine Farm, which has been run by Bob Thieriot for six years. It is planned to be an organized effort, incorporating ideas from the cooperative gardens in Egremont. Interested people are asked to attend the meeting for information and input. For details prior to the meeting phone Milly at 528-4257.

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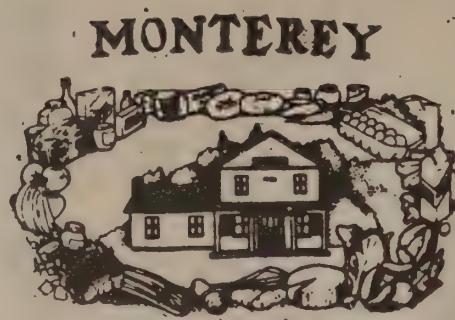


## PLANNING BOARD NEWS

At its meeting on December 11, the Planning Board received the final report from the Citizen Advisory Committee, appointed last January to make recommendations based on the 1975 Monterey Master Plan. The group, which had 12 active members and was chaired by Peter Schulze, met regularly through the year and studied in depth the 1975 plan as well as Monterey's current situation. Their excellent report makes detailed comments on, and further recommendations to, the 26 recommendations made by the authors of the 1975 plan, and, in addition, the group's research turned up some new approaches to zoning which will prove quite helpful in Monterey. The Planning Board is very pleased with the report and expresses its appreciation to all those who worked so hard on its development; we'll be starting to work with the recommendations immediately.

The Planning Board has contracted with the Berkshire County Regional Planning Commission for consultant services on various aspects of our zoning bylaw. We'll be meeting regularly with experts from the BCRPC once they have researched our needs and digested our data; we hope those meetings will begin in January. In addition, the Open Space Plan Committee, chaired by Michèle Miller, is gathering its final report to the town and filing the Open Space Plan with the state.

— Joe Baker



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## GOULD FARM NEWS

All of us at Gould Farm wish to express to members of the community our deep appreciation for the gifts and pledges for the replacing of the gasoline tanks at Roadside Store. At my suggestion and because of the possibility of future damage to the environment, our Board of Directors had voted at the October meeting to stop selling gasoline and to fill the tanks with sand or other approved substance. After hearing from many members of the community of their regret over losing the last source of gasoline in town, we agreed to seek help from the community. Members of the community have responded beyond our expectations with gifts which already exceed \$10,000 toward the replacement costs of at least \$15,000. We are hoping that the contractor with whom we are negotiating will be able to replace the tanks by the end of January.

Although many of our people go home for the holidays, we always have many visitors at the Farm for Christmas and New Year's. I hope that many of you will have visited our live nativity scene at the dairy barn on Christmas Eve. Visitors are welcome at the Farm. It is always good to call ahead, but we do welcome people for tea at 4 p.m. each day.

Each of us at the Farm extends to each of you our greetings and best wishes at the beginning of this New Year. May you find happiness and success in all that you undertake in 1987. Your very special support of Roadside Store reminds us of the acceptance, friendliness, and generosity extended to us at all times by the people of Monterey.

— Kent D. Smith

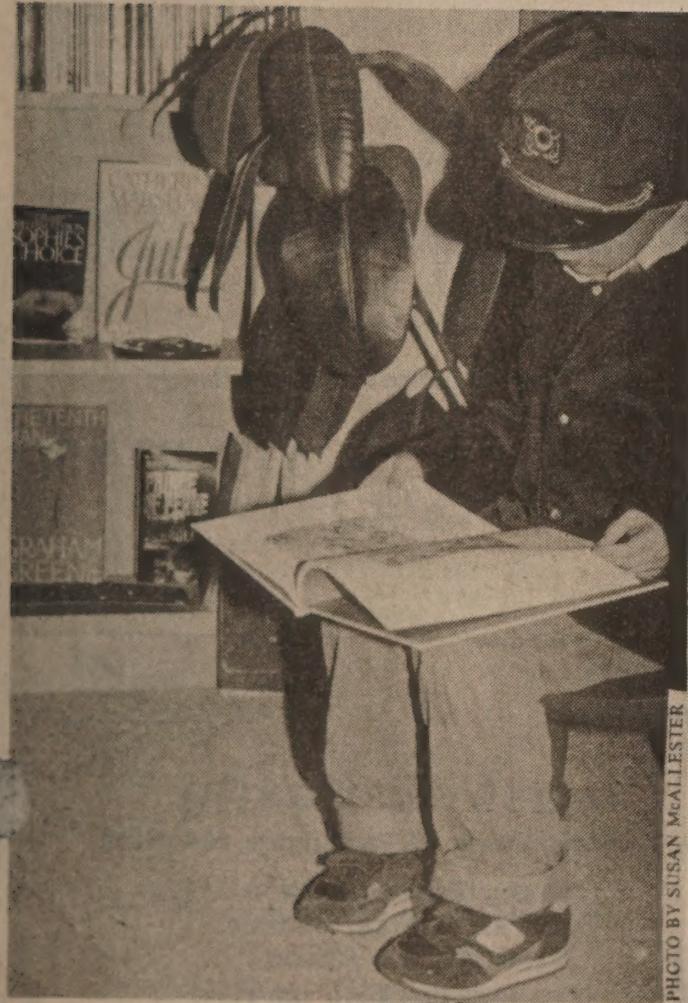
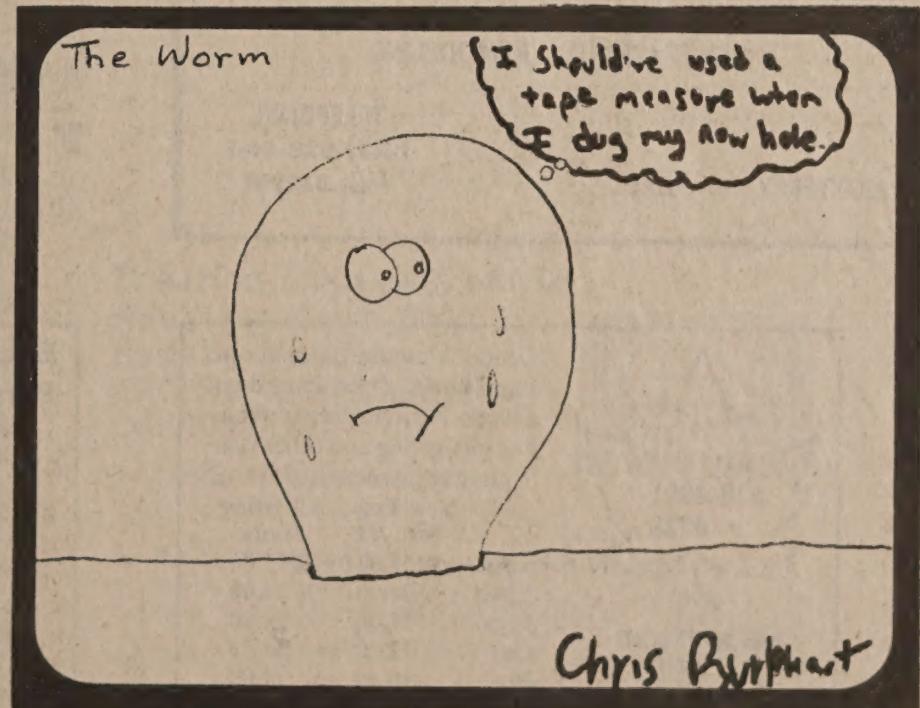


PHOTO BY SUSAN MCALISTER



Avery Boyer enjoying a book at the Christmas open house of the New Spirit Bookstore on December 11.

## UPON MY WORD!

A few years ago, I thought it would be interesting to study Russian, since I love languages, words, and etymology, in general. In due course, I acquired a dictionary and had occasion to look up the Russian word for "peasant." I got quite a surprise and a mini-lesson in history.

Our word "pagan" comes from the Greek *paganos*, which means "peasant." Christianity in the early centuries came first to urban areas, but the peasants (or pagans) clung stubbornly to their own beliefs and were slow to convert to the new religion.

In my Russian dictionary, another word for "peasant" was *kristian*! It seems the country folk still cling to the old-time religion. They are the Russian pagans to communism. So the concept has rolled around 360 degrees.

— A. O. Howell

## MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange No. 291 met December 3, 1986. The theme was "Preparing for Christmas." On December 6 the annual Christmas party was held for members, families, and friends. The party was attended by 43, and the children provided a most enjoyable program followed by a delicious buffet and a gift exchange. Lollipops were there for the children.

The next meeting will be January 21, to be held at the lecture house. On December 12 the Home and Community Youth Committee met to pack the Cheer Boxes.

— Mary A. Wallace  
Lecturer

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## BUTTERFLY

*Brought by the wind*

*Dance your pirouette  
in a wild frenzy of perpetual motion.  
The madness and the joy of it!  
Around and around—  
Ah! the ecstasy of being alive!  
Around and around—  
Whirling around  
Until . . .*

*Caught by the wind.*

*The dance becomes a reverie.  
Wafting, drifting,  
Gently, softly caressed  
By the spirit that made you free.  
You are now together one,  
A wonder of the universe.*

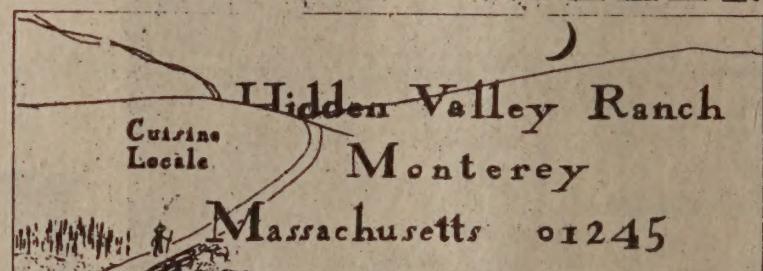
*Stillness*

*A memory.  
A dream.*

*The Butterfly has become a winter sparrow.*

Rosemary Branagan

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## CALENDAR

### Contra and Square Dance

Saturday, January 10—Square and Contra Dance, New England-style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. Beginners and children welcome. All dances taught by caller Joe Baker, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Adults, \$3.50; children, \$1.00 to dance until intermission. Information: 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

### Film Series

Saturday, January 10—*His Girl Friday* (1940), starring Cary Grant and Rosalind Russell.

Saturday, January 17—*Cheaper by the Dozen* (1950), starring Clifton Webb and Jeanne Crain.

Saturday, January 24—*Cat Ballou* (1965), starring Lee Marvin and Jane Fonda.

Saturday, January 31—*Bye Bye Birdie* (1963), starring Dick Van Dyke and Janet Leigh. All the above sponsored by the Monterey Library through the Western Regional Public Library System. Showing in the library basement at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free—bring the family!

### Community Garden Meeting

Wednesday, January 14—Meeting to discuss a community garden (see announcement elsewhere in this issue) with sponsors Bob Thieriot and Milly Walsh, at Walsh's Store, 7:00 p.m. For details phone Bob (528-9266) or Milly (528-4257).

### Contra and Square Dance

Saturday, January 24—Square and Contra Dance, New England-style, at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. 8:30-11:30 p.m. This program is for people who have done it before. Joe Baker calling, music by Mountain Laurel. Refreshments served. Admission: \$3.50. Information: 413-528-9385 or 518-329-7578.

### Community Supper

Wednesday, January 28—Community Supper in the United Church basement at 6:30 p.m. Bring a potluck dish and find out, to your joy, what your neighbors have brought. There will be socializing and entertainment.

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### THE NIGHT SKIES

If you're an early riser you've been seeing Venus as the bright morning star in the east. In January, Saturn will be approaching from below until, on the 24th, they will be only two degrees apart, with Antares and the waning moon close by. The moon will almost cover ("ocult") Antares on the 25th when all four will be at their closest as a group.

In the evening sky, Mars and Jupiter will continue their companionship of last month with Mars getting ever higher and more to the left of Jupiter. At the end of the month, Mercury will be the evening star, very low in the west.

In Orion, now in its ascendancy as the principal winter constellation, the Orion Nebula is visible just below the three big stars of the Hunter's belt. It is an immense cloud of dust and gas in which whole solar systems are in the process of forming. It is visible to the unaided eye but is clearer with binoculars. It gives one a sense of near-infinity and a healthy breadth of perspective to think that eons from now a brand-new planet, perhaps like our earth, may be spinning about one of the Nebula's myriad suns.

The left-hand "shoulder" star of Orion is Betelgeuse (*beetl-joоз*). The name, like many of our star names, comes from the early Arabic astronomers, who called the star Ibt al Jauzah, "The Armpit of the Central One." Astrologers considered that the star signified fortune, martial honors, wealth and other kingly attributes. Astronomers in ancient India considered it as a gem, associated with the storm god, Rudra, and called it Andra ("moist"). It has been observed to vary in color from ruddy to a rich topaz, and some theorists judge from its spectrum that it is slowly approaching extinction.

— David P. McAllester

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